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# THE UNCANNY

# X-MEN™

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**COLOSSUS?**  
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**FRIENDS!**



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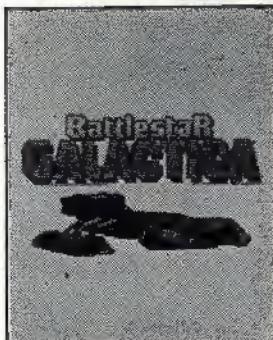
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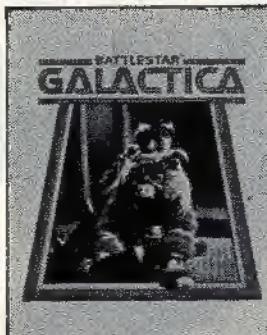
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EDITOR | EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

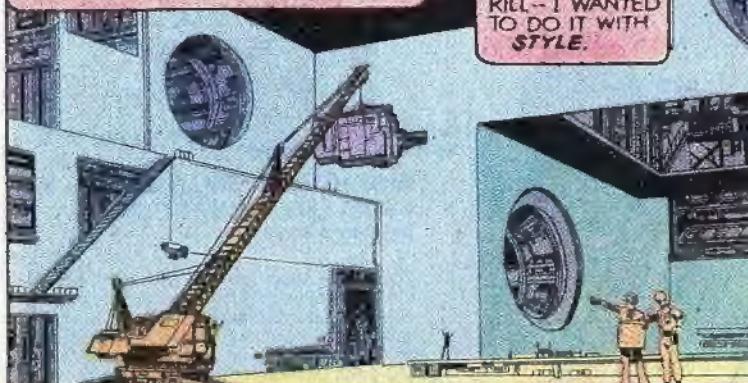
## He only laughs when I HURT!



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"THAT WAS WHEN I REALIZED THAT I HAD A GREAT AND UNIQUE TALENT FOR MURDER. WITHIN A YEAR, I WAS THE BEST HIT-MAN IN THE STATES-- AND I WAS BORED STIFF.



"Y'SEE, LADIES, ANY FOOL CAN KILL-- I WANTED TO DO IT WITH STYLE.

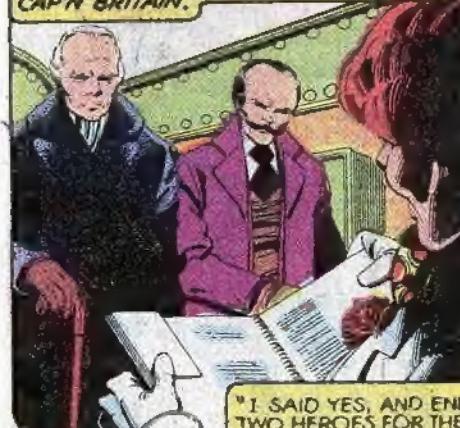
"SO, I COMBINED MY GENIUS WITH DADDY'S FORTUNE AND CREATED MURDERWORLD-- THE FIRST ASSASSINATION AMUSEMENT PARK.

"IT WAS AN INSTANT SUCCESS. BUT BEFORE LONG, I WAS BORED AGAIN. SURE, I'D BUILT MY DISNEYLAND OF DEATH.



"WHAT I NEEDED NOW WAS A FOE WORTHY OF IT-- AND ME.

"THEN, ALONG CAME MESSERS. ROAK AND MORAN, MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN MAGGIE HIERARCHY-- OFFERING A CONTRACT ON AN ENGLISH SUPERHERO, CAP'N BRITAIN.



"I SAID YES, AND ENDED UP BAGGING TWO HEROES FOR THE PRICE OF ONE...

"...CAP AND-- THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN! IT WAS TRULY A FIGHT TO REMEMBER. THEY BEAT ME ON MY OWN TURF, FAIR-AN'-SQUARE. AND I LOVED EVERY MINUTE OF IT."



\*MTU#65-66.  
--ROGER.

"I WAS GETTING SET FOR A REMATCH WITH THE WALL-CRAWLER WHEN BLACK TOM CASSIDY AND CAIN MARKO-- THE JUGGERNAUT-- MADE ME AN OFFER I COULDN'T REFUSE.

WELL, ARCADE-- WHAT'S YOUR DECISION?



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CAPTURING THEM TURNED OUT TO BE A CINCH. START TO FINISH, I CORRALLED THE ENTIRE TEAM-- WITH YOU LOVELY LADIES AS AN UNEXPECTED BONUS-- INSIDE OF AN HOUR. \*



THEY NEVER KNEW WHAT HIT THEM.

\*LAST ISSUE. --R.

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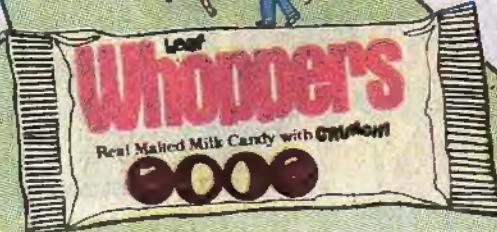
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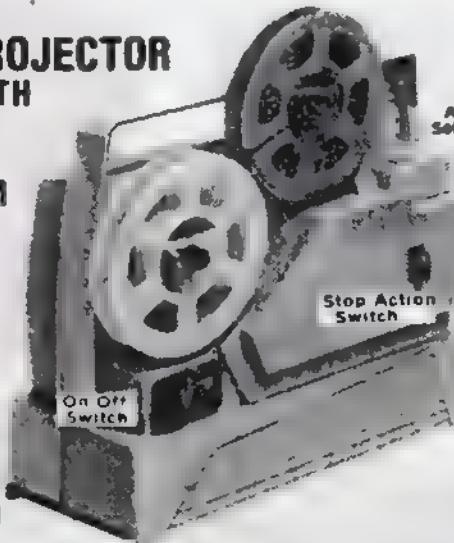
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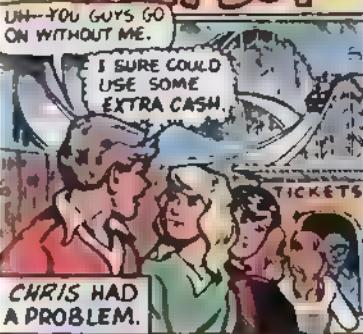
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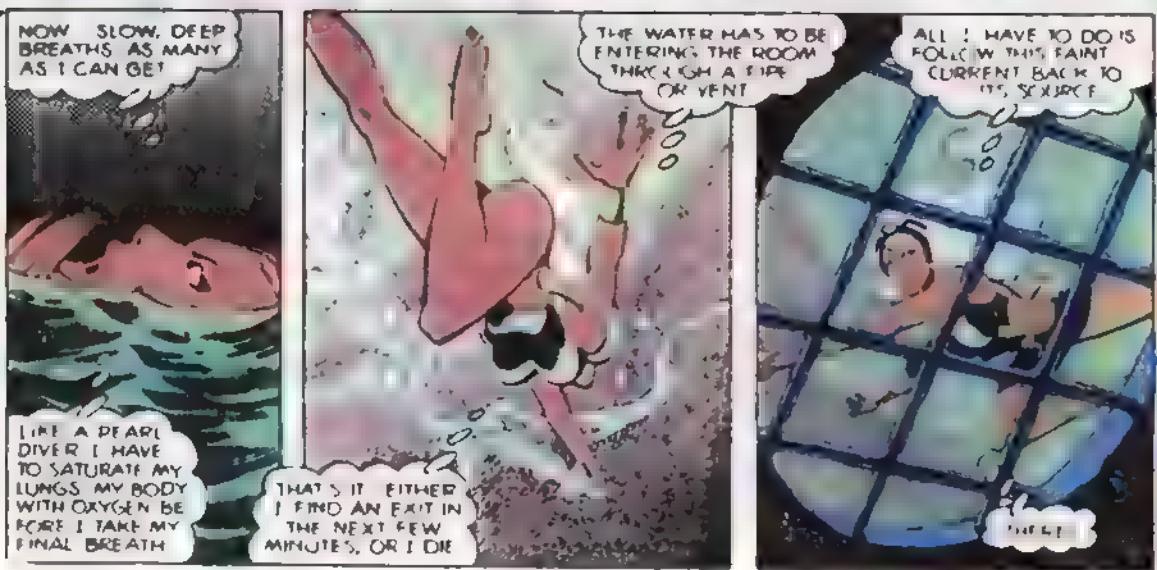
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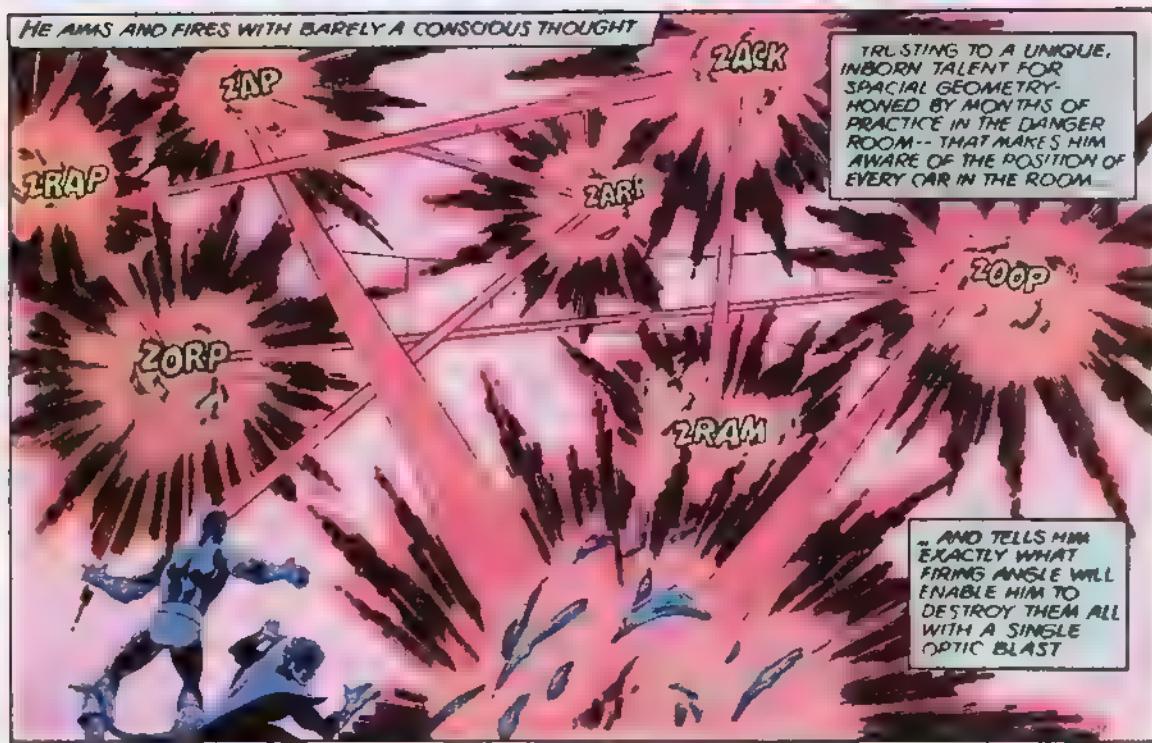
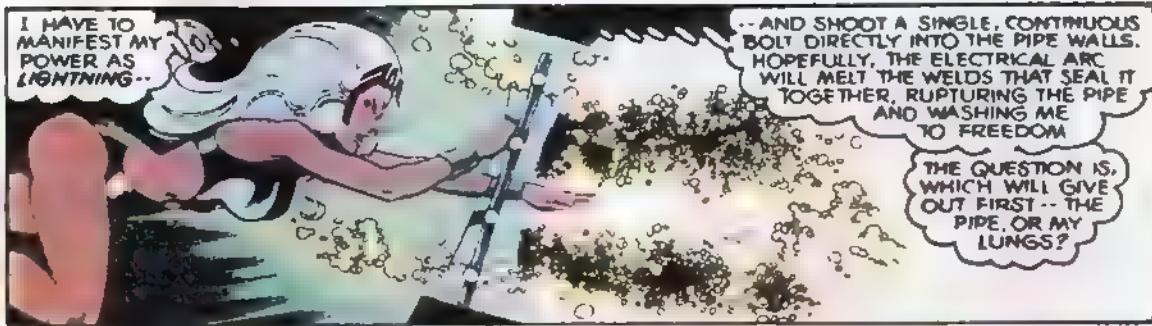
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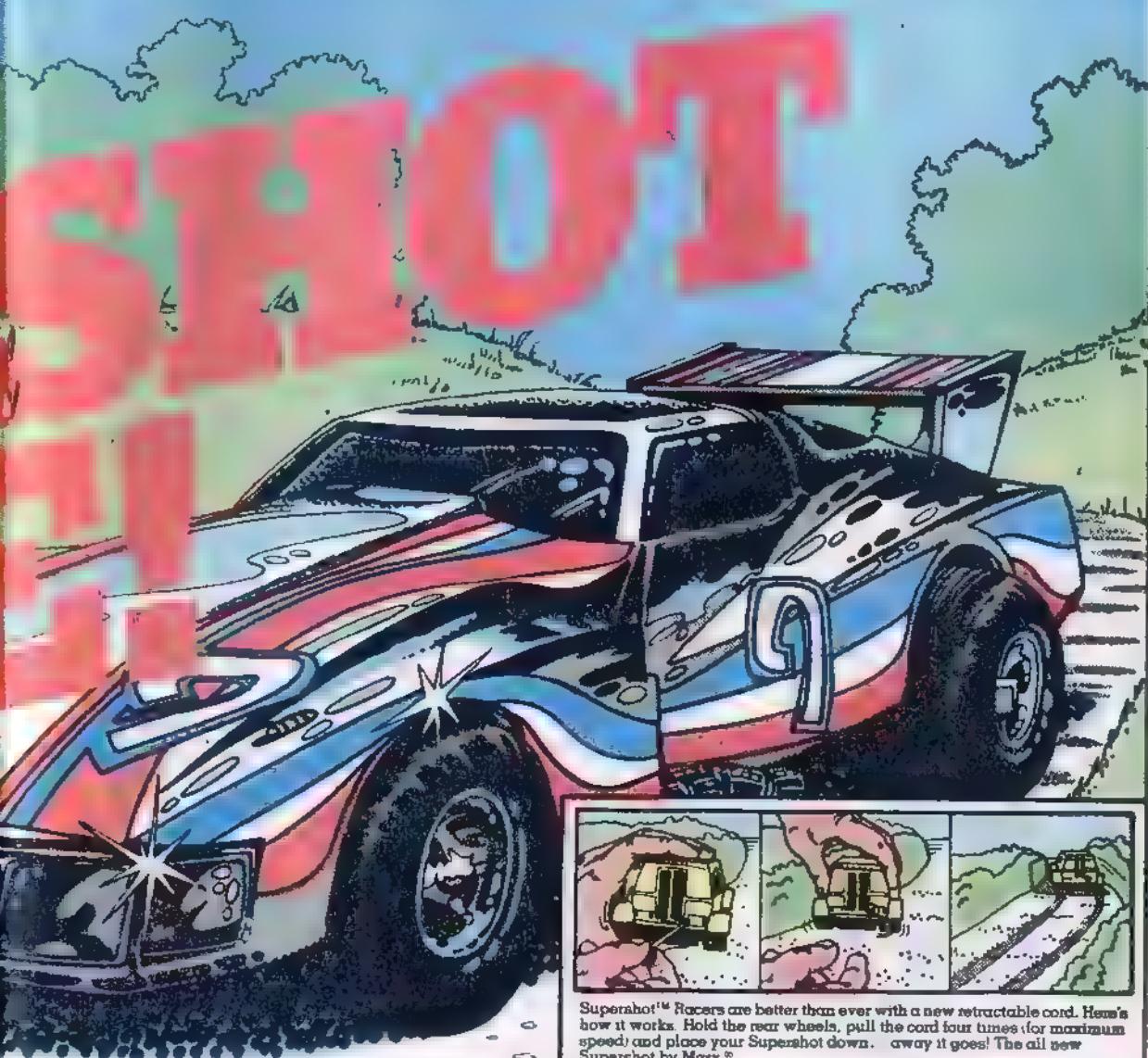
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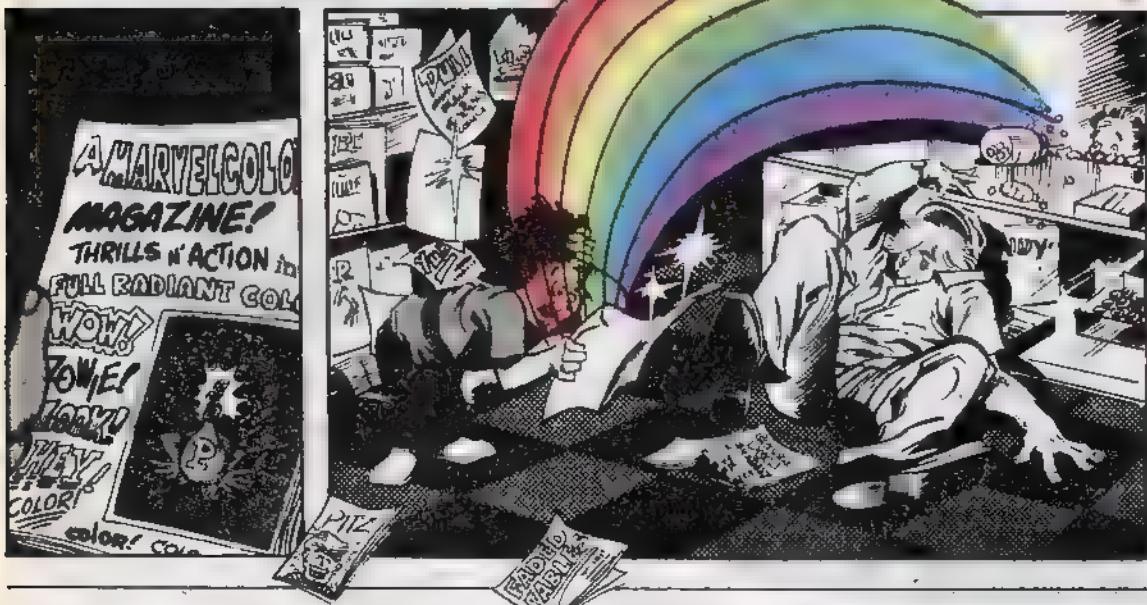
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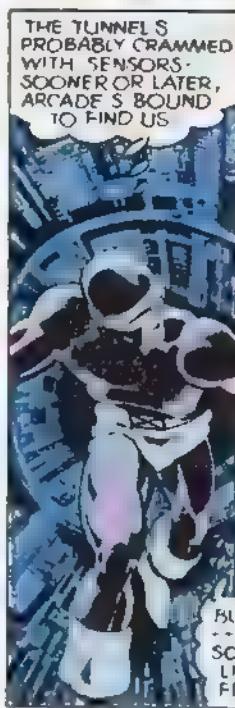
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AT THAT MOMENT, UNAWARE OF NIGHTCRAWLER'S FATE...



WHAT GIVES?! I'VE NEVER HEARD SEAN SOUND SO DISPIRITED.



YEAH - AND IT'S COMING THIS WAY



IN PART AT LEAST, STORM'S GAMBLE HAS FINALLY PAID OFF. HER LIGHTNING BOLTS SHATTERING NOT ONLY THE WATER PIPE

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AS THE DELUGE SUBSIDES...



SHE'S UNCONSCIOUS -- BARELY BREATHING. IF I DON'T ACT FAST, SHE'LL DIE!

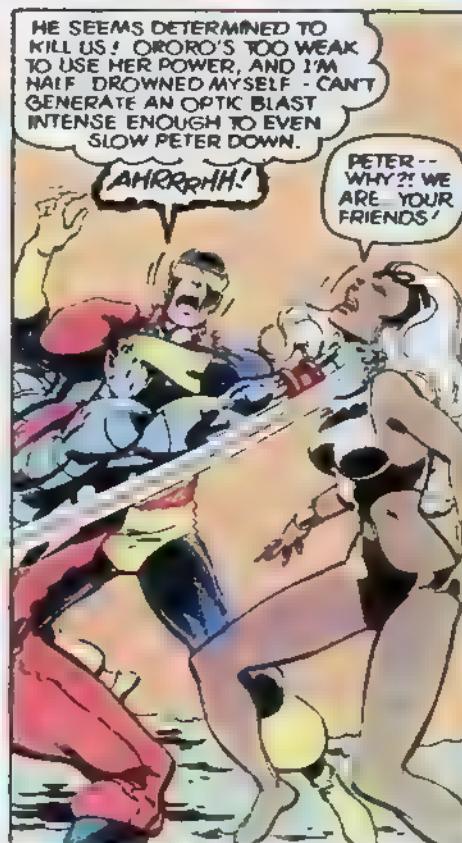
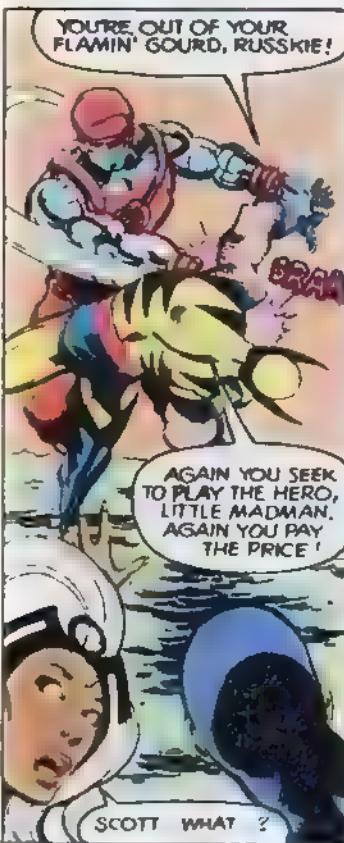


C'MON, ORORO, BREATHE! BREATHE!



FOR A LONG TIME -- TOO LONG, CYCLOPS FEARS -- NOTHING HAPPENS AND THEN





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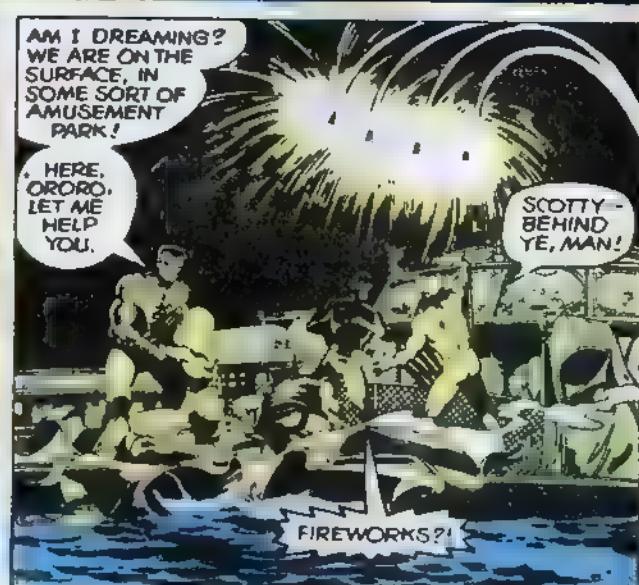
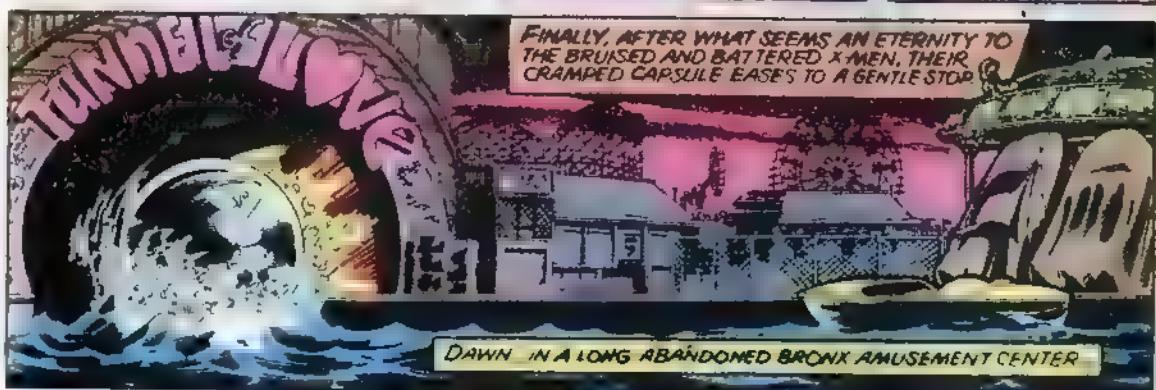
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# BULLPEN BULLETINS

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**ITEM!** Talk about your close calls! A few weeks ago, a bunch of bulletins gathered at the home of Ramblin' Roger and Devilish Dickie McKenzie for coffee, cards and cupcakes. As you might expect, everyone had a wild and crazy time—but the evening was very nearly marred by tragedy! The party was winding down when Marv Wolfman set out in his Pinto for his house in Flushing. He had only gone twenty or so blocks when suddenly his car was slammed from behind while making a turn! The poor Pinto was instantly twisted into a total wreck. Somehow, though Marv emerged from the disaster shaken but without serious injury, and miraculously the other driver was also unharmed. We're a very happy that only the cars were crunched, but for Michele Wolfman baby Jessica, all of us here in the Bullpen, and Marv's million or so fans, it was a bit too close for comfort!



**ITEM!** Speaking of Marvelous Marv, have we got a treat for you Wolfmanites! Fantastic Four freaks and literature lovers! It's Doomsday, the novel, featuring an all new epic starring the fabulous FF written by, yep, our own Mr. Wolfman! Marv isn't talking much about what's inside the book, and whenever we ask him, he just puts on his big, smug read-it-and-see grin. We've learned from past experience not to do the sign language of that grin so we'd humbly advise you to buy a copy and if you can bear to stop staring your eyes on the gorgeous Bob Larkin cover painting, read it! After you're finished and your molecules have settled, get ready for another plunge into adventure with Captain America in his own novel entitled *Holocaust for Hire!* This stunning tale is by Joseph Silvia who did such a bang-up job on the first Hulk novel a while back, but Marv's involved in this one too, as one of the cool toots (that guy is everywhere!). Should we mention that Dave Cockrum painted the cover? Or will that cause riots at the bookstores as his Legion of fans fight over the last few copies? Oh, well... just follow the crowd to wherever Simon & Schuster Pocket Books are sold and take a mere \$1.75 with you for each novel. Friends. And keep

### STAN'S SOAPBOX

Face front, Ironic ones! This is it! I promised to clue you in about our top-secret Project X and Iar be it from me to hold out on the hallowed hordes of Marveldom Assembled! But first, a little background.

Remember how we've often discussed the fact that comicbooks are the most magnified members of the media world? For years your Marvel Bullpen has been trying to bring them the recognition and acclaim they so richly deserve. We've longed to produce a comicbook that would take the public by storm, a masterpiece to thrill our devotees and detractors alike. We're talking about a true work of art, a broad collection of the finest in story and illustration printed on superb paper with colors so vivid they're almost on fire! It would be a visual-blast, a feast for the eyes presenting the greatest talents from every nation on earth as well as the most gifted legend makers Marvel has to offer. It would be higher priced but still the bargain of the century.

Okay! We're gonna do it! Even as I write these history-making words, the mightiest comicbook bullet of all time is excitedly preparing perfection, and producing the most unbelievably spectacular first issue of a fantasy comicbook you've ever dreamed possible! You notice I keep calling it a comicbook for it is a comicbook—but it's the ultimate comicbook—the version we've

been lusted to bring you since Marvel began! Yes, this is the project for which Marvel was surely destined—the creation that will change the image of comicbooks for all time to come!

The title? **ODYSSEY!** Remember? **ODYSSEY!** 'A prolonged voyage. An intellectual or spiritual quest.' **ODYSSEY!** A senses staggering journey into the most dazzling worlds of unbeknown magnificence! **ODYSSEY!** An awesome eye-filling explosion of high tension excitement that I leave you breathless! **ODYSSEY!** In case you haven't figured where I'm suggesting that there's not one more the first *taupe* limited edition issue of **WHAT'S THAT AGAIN?**—a year! **ODYSSEY!**

Now look, you know I try to avoid too much huckstering in this little column of mine, but this is a ordinary sales pitch, honest! I would be fail to you if I didn't alert you to the most dynamically different magazine we've ever produced, the magazine which is certain to be a new milestone in the history of comics—the most talked about, sought-after publication of the decade!

Hey, it's on the drawing board right now. We'll give you the fine details next month. **ODYSSEY!** Comics will never be the same again!

Excelsior!

Stan

I had super Joe to make the scene in ages. His name is Spanish of course and it means The Eagle. A certain doughty artist is responsible for brainstorming, designing, and suggesting El Aquila to Marv Johnson and we give a no prize to the first ten readers who recognize his distinctive approach and a particular effort to us correctly identifying him. En route gang! Grab your copy before they're all gone!

**ITEM!** The seventeenth issue of **SPIDER-WOMAN** is on sale now and it features a new character who we all can say is so don't know what to you've seen the star man!

**ITEM!** And while we're talking about new characters we hasten to introduce the two newest characters in the Bullpen: namely, lovely Linda Flomo, sparkling secretary, and Rajid Ron Zaime, peerless production person. We come aboard, troopers!

**ITEM!** Just a reminder: be careful that no those off-hand items! We want to see you in the city. And bring your friends!

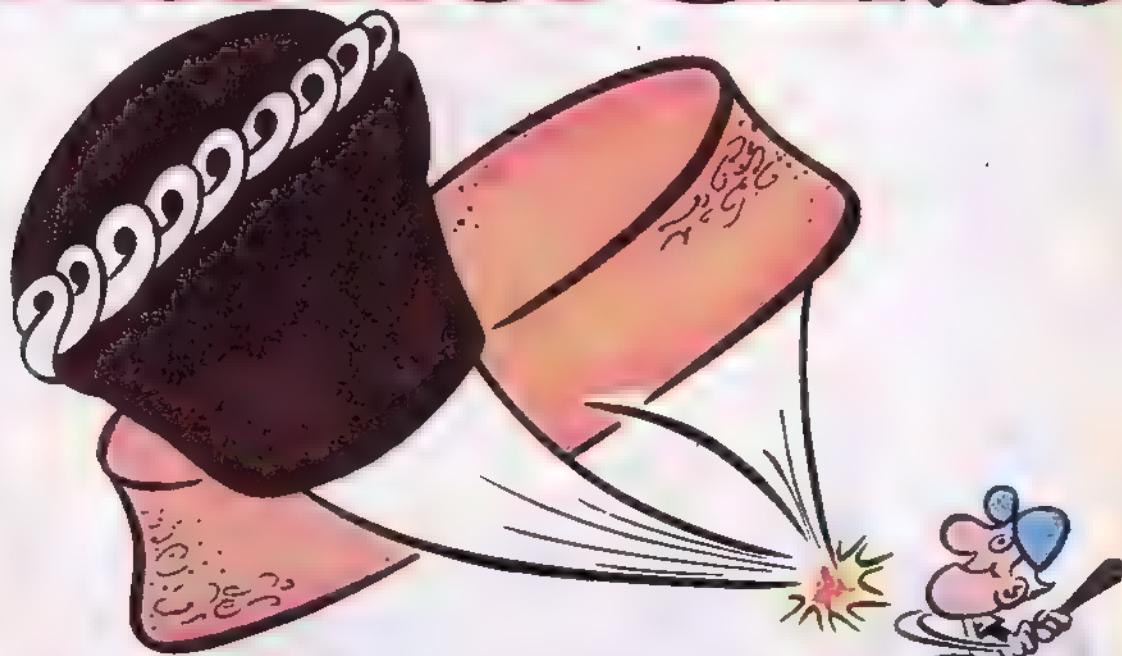
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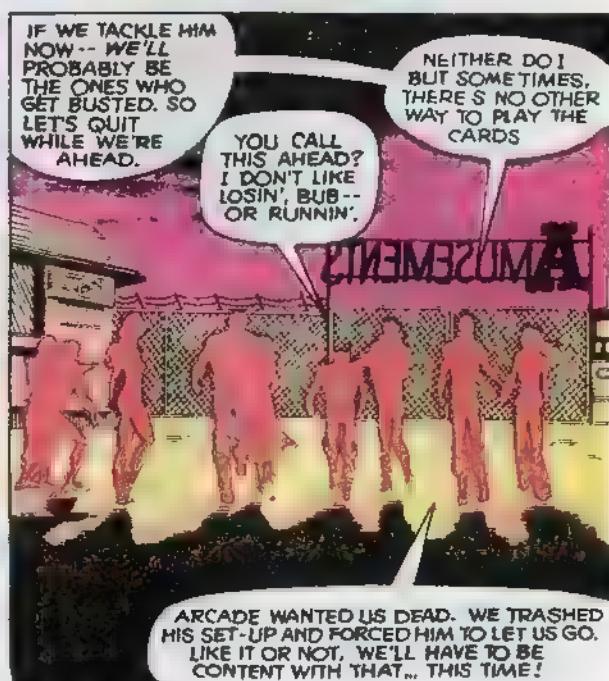
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# X-MEN

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575 Madison Avenue

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ROGER STERN  
EDITOR

JIM SALICRUP  
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Dear Chris and John,

X-MEN #118, like all the other issues you two turn out, was perfect. John's fluid artwork coupled with Chris's brilliant characterizations gives the X-MEN a humane quality so lacking in other comics today. Perhaps what I enjoy the most about them is their closeness and friendship with each other despite their occasional bickerings. Friendship is one of the greatest attributes of mankind and it is so refreshing to see it exemplified through the X-Men. Moving along, my first reaction to Sunfire—what an egomaniac! I hope his having to be saved by the X-Men during the fight brought him down a peg or two. Also, I want to thank you for finally letting Nightcrawler get in on the action. I suspect he was becoming rather disenchanted with his role as shown by the dirty look he gave Cyclops on page 7 of X-MEN #115. Finally, I would like to place my nomination for best scene of the year. What else could it be but the scene where a rough, sometimes crude Wolverine meets a timid, gentle Mariko, and promptly loses his heart to her. Please let their friendship develop further and leave Jean to Scott. Wolverine needs the tenderness of Mariko, not the raging fury of Phoenix, to quell the bestial side of him. Also, could you please clear up the mystery surrounding Wolverine? Each issue brings the reader some new insight into his past and it would be nice if you would pull it all together.

Kathy Smith  
Danvers, MA

Dear Marvel,

If not for your beautiful cover and dynamic artwork, I doubt if I would truly have enjoyed X-MEN #118. The plot had me terribly confused, trying to decide whether the firestorm had been caused by an earthquake (as stated by Wolverine) or by firebombing (as extrapolated by Matsunaga, Nightcrawler's sailor friend). Things moved too quickly and without reason; the X-Men are travelling to the Yashida ancestral mansion without helping any Japanese along the way, Sunfire pouncing on them as if they were fugitives, the Prime Minister wanting to talk to the X-Men but never getting around to it, all the X-Men wandering off in the mansion when they should've been trying to get home, and countless other things. You're lucky I let them pass by this month; I'm hoping there'll be a rational explanation next month; 'cause I don't feel like degrading my favorite comic now.

David C. Zimmermann  
157 Lemay Gardens Ct.  
St. Louis, MO 63126

Neither do we, David. To take your points in order: the firestorm was caused by the earthquake rupturing oil, gasoline and natural gas pipelines and storage tanks and then the contents of those tanks being ignited. A firestorm, by the way (for those of you who wondered why Storm couldn't put it out), is a monumental fire, so huge and powerful that it cannot be



extinguished by normal means. Its core is literally a pillar of flame hundreds of feet tall, that turns the area around it into something akin to an open-air blast furnace. To combat such a holocaust, Storm would have had to create a typhoon over the city, which would itself have caused far more damage over a far greater area. Anyway, Chris thought he made it clear that the earthquake was responsible; guess he was wrong. Regarding the trek to Sunfire's house—page 7, panel 1, caption 1 mentions them being delayed again and again by their efforts to help local rescue teams; there just wasn't room to show it. Re: Sunfire's greeting—you'd probably be pretty antsy, too, if a madman had just made good on a threat to destroy St. Louis. Also, Scott is in conference with the Prime Minister on page 15. And, finally, why shouldn't the X-Men wander off and relax. In that kind of situation, one assumes they figured—or were told by Cyclops—to assume a low profile and stay out of people's way. All clear, Dave?

Sirs:

Bravo! Brenda Robinett's emotive letter deserves our support and was enough to wake me up, and give her mine! Jean Grey has been getting the short end of the stick lately, and I think you should either quit it or at least tell us what's going on!

More so than most Marvel characters, Jeanie has paid her share of dues—as Marvel Girl her telekinetic powers were often overtaxed, despite her being trained by Prof. X until her psi powers were close to his own. Her romance with Scott has given both of them years of emotional strain with few rewards. Finally, she's no mere 'Child of the Atom' anymore—she actually gave her life to save her fellow X-Men in the shuttlecraft! Her incredible powers seemed a fitting reward for this ultimate sacrifice—her miraculous rebirth is the source of her new identity, after all! Let's get into her head a little more.

I've been an X-MEN reader since #1, and while I can't deny that you're the leader in concept and artwork nowadays, I'd sure like to see Jean get her share of power and happiness—it's been long overdue. Give Phoenix her full potential without these "burnouts"! Her powers are new and versatile, if erratic. She's not just a slugger. Since the incident, her mental powers have multiplied to who-knows-what! PLEASE let her actualize this potential.

Ian Deeley  
5th Special Forces  
Ft. Bragg, NC 28307

We'll do our best, Ian. But along the way, we feel obliged to point out a misconception that seems to be causing no end of trouble for our readers. Time and again, we read and hear references to Scott and Jean's 14 year romance. If that were the case—assuming they were 18 and 17 years old respectively when they met—both of them would be in their early to middle thirties! However, as they aren't in their thirties, they can't possibly have been together 14 years. In fact, the rule of thumb used at Marvel is that it's been maybe five or six years since Xavier founded the X-Men, if that—which means that Jean and Scott have been together and in love for maybe three or four years. So, there are still a lot of things each has to learn about the other, and a lot of things that can go wrong. That's not to say that they will...but they might.

**NEXT ISSUE:** For those of you who may be wondering what the fuss is all about, we proudly re-introduce—in her considerable glory—Phoenix! Hang onto your hats, people, because the X-Men are about to be reunited—but first, Jean Grey, Moira MacTaggart, Lorna Dane, Alex Summers and Jamie Madrox have to discover: "THERE'S SOMETHING AWFUL ON MUIR ISLAND!"

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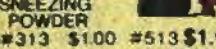
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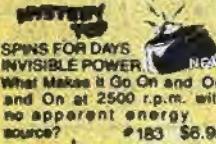
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So you can just  
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and take the fun  
wherever you  
go. Neat, huh?

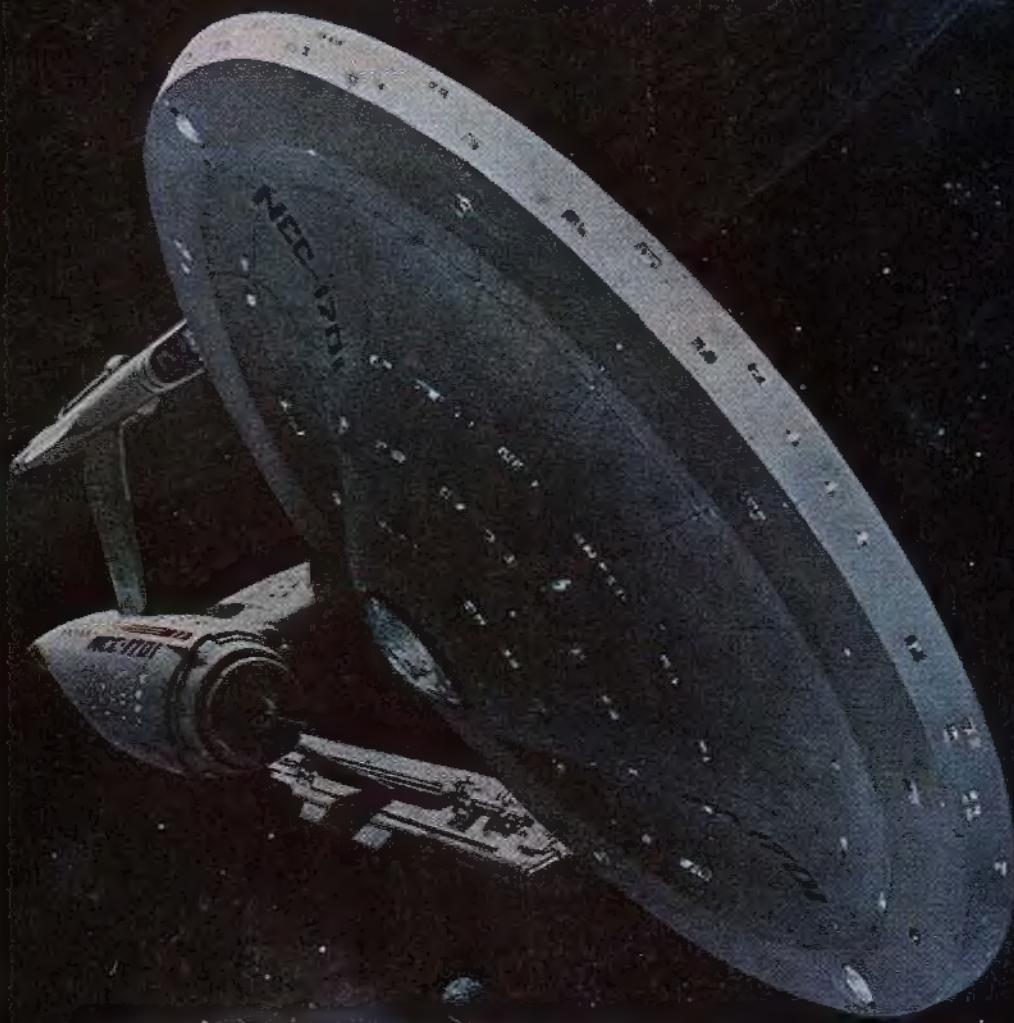


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## STAR TREK

THE MOTION PICTURE <sup>TM</sup>



William Shatner  
as  
Captain Kirk



Leonard Nimoy  
as  
Mr. Spock



DeForest Kelley  
as  
Dr. "Bones" McCoy



James Doohan  
as  
Scotty



George Takei  
as  
Sulu



Nichelle Nichols  
as  
Uhura



Walter Koenig  
as  
Chekov



Persis Khambatta  
as  
Laa



Stephen Collins as  
Commander  
Willard Decker

Paramount Pictures Presents A Robert Wise Film. A Gene Roddenberry Production. STAR TREK—THE MOTION PICTURE  
Starring William Shatner Leonard Nimoy DeForest Kelley Also Starring Persis Khambatta Co-Starring James Doohan  
George Takei Majel Barrett Walter Koenig Nichelle Nichols and Stephen Collins as Decker Screenplay by  
Gene Roddenberry and Harold Livingston Produced by Gene Roddenberry Directed by Robert Wise

A Paramount Picture



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